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April 17, 2003

APR 29 2003

**Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554**

**Confirmed
APR 29 2003
Distribution Center**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I hear that Qwest, our local provider, may be allowed to offer long distance service in Minnesota. What can I do to help make this happen? Everyone knows that increased competition would bring better services and lower prices to the consumer. I'd like to have an opportunity to buy a package of telephone service all in one bundle with one bill, all while receiving cost savings.

After federal regulatory approval, Qwest will be my long distance provider. I strongly believe that when Qwest is permitted to offer Minnesota residents the entire telecommunications package, competitive prices and improved customer service will ultimately transpire.

Why is our state trailing behind nearly all others? States like Minnesota and North Dakota are already benefiting from their local phone company providing long distance. Why can't Minnesotans save money and get better service too?

Thank you for your time, and thanks for what I hope is your support in allowing our local provider to enter the long distance market.

Sincerely,

Susan Hedlund

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**CC: Senator Mark Dayton
Senator Norm Coleman
Congressman Jim Oberstar**

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